

March 1, 2007

Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)
Airport Parking Lot and Transit Facility Project
Sonoma County (WDID# 1B05136WNSO)

On October 10, 2005, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works (Applicant) requesting a Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for the Airport Parking Lot and Transit Facility (Project) in Sonoma County. The proposed project causes disturbances to Waters of the United States and State associated with Mark West Creek Sub Area No.114.23, Russian River Hydrologic Unit No.114.00.

The proposed project is located at the Sonoma County Airport, south of Airport Boulevard, and west of Flightline Drive. The latitude and longitude is 38.50981°N and - 122.80387°W. The area is currently an open field and watercourse consisting of ephemeral stream and riparian area. The purpose of the Project is to construct a 450-space parking lot and bus loading area for commuters using the airport. The Project will cover approximately 6 acres. The Project will permanently fill approximately 0.037 acres of Waters of the State and U.S.

The treatment of post construction storm water for the project will consist of the installation of vegetated bioswales and underground filtration devices to remove contaminants from parking lot stormwater runoff before it can enter surface water streams. After treatment, the stormwater will be conveyed to a storm drain that drains to Ordinance Creek, a tributary to Windsor Creek, and Mark West Creek.

Compensatory mitigation will be accomplished on-site by construction of wetlands and linear swales to the west of the Project on airport property.

Non-compensatory mitigation will be achieved through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) as described in the submitted Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.

The applicant has consulted with the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) regarding the necessity for a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. DFG determined that no Streambed Alteration Agreement would be required.

A federal Section 404 nationwide permit #39 from the Army Corps of Engineers has been applied for, file number 28282N.

The County of Sonoma, as the lead California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) agency, adopted an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, SCH# 2005022021, on April 5, 2005, per CEQA guidelines.

Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Stephen Bargsten at (707) 576-2653 or at sbargsten@waterboards.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

The related documents and comments received are on file and may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review. Appointments can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.